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RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 2152  
Docket No.: 21.1924

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Sumiyo Okada

Serial No. 09/336,706

Group Art Unit: 2152

Technology Center 2100

Confirmation No. 7969

Filed: June 21, 1999

Examiner: Beatriz Prieto

For: MESSAGE DISPLAY METHOD AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE SYSTEM AND  
STORAGE MEDIUM

RECEIVED

DEC 27 2002

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attention: **BOX AF**

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed September 24, 2002, and having a period for response set to expire on December 24, 2002.

Reconsideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested. The following remarks are respectfully submitted.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 32, as follows:

During information exchange in, for example, a chat system, a user who is participating in the communication does not always have to proffer his/her opinion. However, the user is only allowed to participate in messages transmitted from other users when actively a part of the common communication field. An application interface for a chat system is provided in, for example, (Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. HEI 10-154117). A communication field in which users proffer therein opinions, and a communication field in which users only refer to messages of other users, can be displayed for identification. Messages in the

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01 FC:1201  
02 FC:1202

252.00 OP  
126.00 OP